

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

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O 041145Z NOV 76  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3347

S E C R E T GENEVA 8726

NODIS/CHEROKEE

TO THE SECRETARY FROM SCHAUFELLE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PFOR, RH, UK  
SUBJ: RHODESIAN CONFERENCE: NOV 3 MEETING WITH SALIM

1. I CALLED ON SALIM ON NOV 3 TO GET HIS READING  
OF THE SITUATION IN GENEVA.

2. SALIM, LIKE THE OTHER FRONT LINE OBSERVERS, WAS  
PLEASED WITH THE WAY THE CONFERENCE HAD STARTED BUT  
SAID THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT THE FUTURE. HE  
AND HIS COLLEAGUES WERE IMPRESSED BY THE SERIOUSNESS  
AND COOLHEADEDNESS OF THE NATIONALISTS. HE ADVANCED  
NOW FAMILIAR ARGUMENTS ABOUT THE WISDOM OF SELECTING  
A FIXED DATE OF INDEPENDENCE. SALIM MAINTAINED THAT IF  
AN INDEPENDENCE DATE IS SELECTED, THE NATIONALISTS  
WILL BE UNDER GREATER PRESSURE TO WORK TOGETHER AND  
MOVE AWAY FROM THE ARMED STRUGGLE.

2. HE ALSO ARGUED FORCEFULLY FOR BRITISH ASSUMPTION OF  
RESIDUAL COLONIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ONCE AN INTERIM  
GOVERNMENT IS FORMED. SALIM FELT THAT THE BRITISH COULD  
BE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IN OVERCOMING ANY IMPASSE  
WHICH MIGHT DEVELOP OVER THE MANAGEMENT OF RHODESIA'S  
SECURITY FORCES.

3. I QUESTIONED THE TANZANIAN CAREFULLY ON WHAT WAS  
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THE STATE OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE NATIONALISTS.

HE SAID THAT HE AND THE OTHER FRONT LINE OBSERVERS WERE  
PLAYING A LOW-KEY ROLE. HE WAS PLEASED BY THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND REFERRED TO  
"FEELERS" TO THE FRONT FROM SITHOLE AND MUZOREWA.  
THERE WAS NO POINT, HE SAID, IN TRYING TO NEGOTIATE  
A MORE FORMAL DEGREE OF COOPERATION AMONG THE  
NATIONALISTS WHILE THEY ARE IN GENEVA. "WE CAN'T  
DO HERE WHAT OUR PRESIDENTS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO DO  
AT HOME." THE BEST WAY TO FORGE UNITY IS TO ENCOURAGE  
THE NATIONALISTS TO WORK FOR THE SAME CONFERENCE  
OBJECTIVES. CATTO

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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